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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Lebanon/Syria

DATE 25X1A6a

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Antun Sa'dah

DIST. 22 October 1947

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT [REDACTED]

25X1X6 [REDACTED]

1. It is reported that the court order issued for the arrest of Antun Sa'dah was cancelled as a result of pressure exerted on Bishara Khuri, Lebanese President, by Shukri Quwwatli, Syrian President. Source believes that Quwwatli's action in behalf of Sa'dah was taken because of the interference of Isam Inglizi, a Syrian member of the S.P.P. (formerly the Syrian Popular Party, now known as the Syrian Social Nationalist Party), who is an employee in the Presidential Palace and a close friend of Shukri Quwwatli.
2. Sa'dah met recently with several Syrian members of the S.P.P., including Inglizi, Sa'id Fattah Imam, and Sa'id Tillawi. The subject of Greater Syria was discussed.
3. Sa'dah has allegedly agreed to work for a strong republican regime in Syria, rather than propagandizing for a Hashimite Greater Syria which he was previously reported as favoring. [See [REDACTED]].

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Comments:

- (1) This new position adopted by Sa'dah is a reversal of his previous position as reported in [REDACTED], distributed 26 April 1947. It was indicated at that time that Sa'dah had continually espoused some form of a United Syria (embodying the geographic area of "Natural Syria" from the Taurus Mountains to the Euphrates River), although he opposed 'Abdallah's sectarian concept of a Moslem Greater Syria as "dangerous". 25X1A2g
- (2) A well-qualified informant, who recently returned from the Middle East, has commented on several points relevant to Sa'dah's position on this question. 25X1A6a
 - (a) Source stated that Sa'dah was definitely committed to the idea of a Natural Syria.
 - (b) It was further stated that Sa'dah's political future in Lebanon (where his party has its greatest strength) depends on his alignment with other strong Opposition leaders. However, because of Sa'dah's commitment to a union of Lebanon and Syria with neighboring countries, source considered it unlikely that Sa'dah would join forces with such powerful Lebanese leaders as Emile Edde, whose concept of an independent, Christian Lebanon is at variance with Sa'dah's views.

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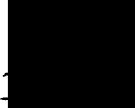
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- (c) As regards Sa'dah's previous espousal of 'Abdallah's Greater Syria plan [REDACTED], source maintained that Sa'dah quickly realized the inexpediency of his position and withdrew his support of 'Abdallah. 25X1A2g

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